



# Florida Motorcycle Safety Coalition Meeting Report

*May 1-2, 2019*

*Prepared for*

**Florida Department of Transportation**

*Prepared by*

**Center for Urban Transportation Research (CUTR)**

**University of South Florida**



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Center for Urban Transportation Research  
4202 E. Fowler Ave. CUT100  
Tampa, FL 33620

*Meeting notes taken by*

Christen Miller

*Date*

May 1-2, 2019

# 1.0 Attendees

Table 1.1 Coalition Meeting Attendees

Name	Agency
Jeff Smith	Adventure Rider Training
Chris Hayes	Bay Area Riders (Online Rider Community in Tampa Bay)
Tom Francis	Bay Area Riders (Online Rider Community in Tampa Bay)
Todd Michael	Broward County Sheriff
Edie Peters*	Florida Department of Transportation
Javier Ponce	Florida Department of Transportation
Nathan Kautz	Florida Department of Transportation, District 1
Nick Hope	Florida Department of Transportation, District 2
Katie Kokesh	Florida Department of Transportation, District 5
Joel Provenzano	Florida Department of Transportation, District 7
Maria Largaesparada	Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles
William Minton	Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles
Dennis Hobbs	Florida Highway Patrol
Mark Welch	Florida Rider Training Program (FRTTP) /DHSMV
John Pretti	Florida Safe Rider Motorcycle Training Academy
Shaun Vanbeber	Law Enforcement Liaison (LEL), District 6
Janice Martinez	Law Enforcement Liaison (LEL), District 7
Jim McGinnis	Goldwing Road Riders Assoc.
Mark Parco	Harley-Davidson Riding Academy
Steffen Smith	Harley-Davidson Riding Academy
David Summers	Health Care District Palm Beach County
Dominick DeSiato Jr.	Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office
Joshua Riba	Pinellas County Judge
Megan Cott	USF Center for Urban Transportation Research
Mouyid Islam	USF Center for Urban Transportation Research
Si-Won Jang	USF Center for Urban Transportation Research
Jeanne Kean	USF Center for Urban Transportation Research
Chanyoung Lee	USF Center for Urban Transportation Research
Christen Miller	USF Center for Urban Transportation Research
James Takacs	USF Center for Urban Transportation Research
Avinash Gogineni	Ryder Trauma Center - Miami
Julissa Sarmiento	Ryder Trauma Center - Miami

\*Motorcycle Safety Program Manager

## 2.0 Presentation Notes – May 1<sup>st</sup>

### Welcome and Program Update – Ms. Edie Peters

FDOT - Ms. Edie Peters welcome the members of the Coalition. Introductions were made.

- She announced that the Emphasis area leaders' meeting was held on May 1, 2019 prior to the Coalition meetings, May 2-3, 2019.

### FY 2018-2019 Florida Motorcycle Safety Programs Update – Ms. Edie Peters

Ride Smart Florida has created two campaigns to promote Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month in May:

- **Look for me 1-2-3:** To recognize that May is Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month, Ride Smart Florida created the Look for me 1-2-3 campaign. It aims to achieve no motorcycle fatalities on May 1st, 2nd, and 3rd!
- The following items were created to help promote the campaign:
  - Held the "Get the picture" event on April 20<sup>th</sup> at Bert's Barracuda Harley-Davidson St. Petersburg, FL.
    - Took a picture of around 150 motorcyclists holding "Watch for motorcycle" signs.
  - Using the #LOOKFORME123 during the entire month of May.
  - Video advertisement running on Facebook.
  - <http://ridsmartflorida.com/lookforme123>



Look for me 1-2-3 photoshoot 2019.

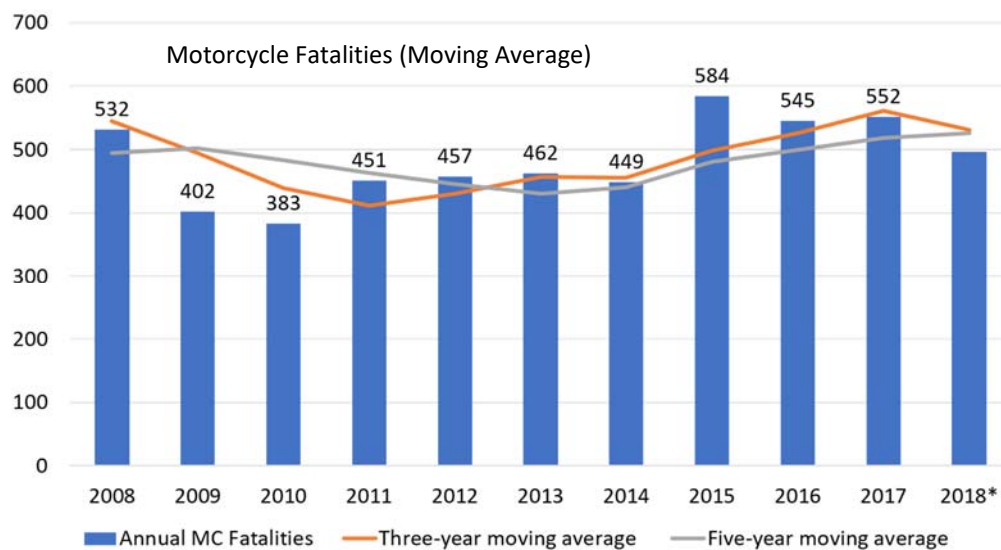
- **Endorsement and Beyond:** This is a pilot program that aims to promote experienced rider courses (ERC) in May 2019. The program will include a \$75 tuition subsidy for each participant.
  - A video was created to help define ERC and explain the benefits of taking the course.
    - An ERC is any course offered that's beyond the Basic RiderCourse (BRC) and taught on a rider's own motorcycle. The BRC2, Advanced RiderCourse (ARC) and the Ultimate Bike Bonding RiderCourse (UBBRC) are the three Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) courses offered as ERC's during the month of May.
- A Newsletter was created and distributed during Daytona Bike Week 2019.

- Aging Rider Brochure has been created and is in the final stages. It will be distributed at outreach events.

## Florida Motorcycle Crash Update – Dr. Chanyoung Lee

CUTR - Dr. Chanyoung Lee presented results from the Florida Motorcycle Crash Update:

Motorcycles represent 3% registered vehicles. In 2017, Florida observed a slight increase in motorcycle fatalities. According to preliminary data, it is expected to see a decline in 2018.



Dr. Lee explained that Florida Motorcycle Safety Program is guided by three documents: Motorcycle Safety Program Technical Assessment for the State of Florida, Florida Motorcycle Strategic Safety Plan (MSSP) and Florida Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP).

View the full presentation: [Motorcycle Crash Update Presentation](#)

## Study on Motorcycle Safety Improvement with Dynamic Speed Feedback Signs (DSFS) on Horizontal Curve – Dr. Zhenyu Wang

CUTR - Dr. Zhenyu Wang presented the Motorcycle Safety Improvement with Dynamic Speed Feedback Signs (DSFS) on Horizontal Curve:

Dynamic speed feedback sign (DSFS) has been widely implemented to reduce traffic speed in Florida. However, the knowledge of how motorcyclists, who have different behaviors from vehicle drivers, interacting with the DSFS on rural curves is limited. This study aims to investigate the effectiveness of DSFS to improve motorcyclist safety-related behaviors on rural two-lane curves. The statistical analysis shows that the flashing function of the “DYNAMIC” mode effectively increases riders’ attention rate and attention distance. The motorcycle safety curves can be improved because riders have more reaction time and high awareness to negotiate curves. The “DYNAMIC” mode also tends to increase the percentage of speed reduction of curve-negotiation events.

View the full presentation: [Motorcycle Safety Improvement with DSFS](#)

## Outreach Update – Dr. James Takacs

CUTR – Dr. James Takacs presented an overview on Ride Smart Florida’s recent outreach efforts:

Ride Smart Florida attended the following events:

- Cycle Gear Bike Night; Tampa, FL – February 12
- DeLand Bike Rally; DeLand, FL – March 9
- Gathering of Wings; Altamonte Springs, FL - March 21– March 23
- 12th Annual Motorcycle Safety Rally; Eglin Air Force Base, FL – April 12
- HOG Meeting; Tampa, FL – April 13
- Leesburg Bikefest; Leesburg, FL – April 29

All events have been well attended and successful in promoting Ride Smart Florida’s safety messages.

Learn more: <https://ridsmartflorida.com/outreach>



Eglin Air Force Base photoshoot 2019.

## Florida Motorcycle Crash Analysis in Work Zone – Dr. Mouyid Islam

CUTR - Dr. Mouyid Islam, CUTR, presented Florida Motorcycle Crashes in Work Zone findings:

Unexpected driving conditions inside work zone or construction areas very likely interrupt the expectancy of the drivers resulting in unexpected traffic delays and erratic maneuvers that result in safety concerns for overall traffic as well as for the workers. Motorcycle crashes on state routes work zones are in decreasing trend but accounts for two-thirds of crashes.

View the full presentation: [FL Motorcycle Crash in Work Zone](#)

## Summary of Major Recommendations – Ms. Edie Peters

Ms. Edie Peters shared the Summary of Major Recommendations which are a response to the NHTSA motorcycle program assessment.

Ride Smart Florida has created three 300-word documents supporting on the following topics:

- Children Motorcycle Passenger Protection

- Define Mopeds & Scooters as Motorcycles for License Endorsement and Helmet Use
- Update to Florida Motorcycle Insurance Statute

Coalitions member were asked to think of additional topics for policy change to improve motorcycle safety in Florida.

### **Roundtable Group Discussion 1:**

Coalition members broke up into groups to discuss the Summary of Major Recommendations:

- Program Management
- Data and Analysis
- Rider Training and Licensing
- Law Enforcement and Emergency Service
- Roadway Engineering
- Advocacy and Policy
- Communications and Outreach

## 3.0 Presentation Notes – May 2<sup>nd</sup>

### Review of Day One – Ms. Edie Peters

Coalitions members shared their 300-word documents ideas:

- “Dead Red law” in Florida: 16 states already have already adopted this law. Look at other states for precedents.
- Revisit definition of motorcycles to include electric motorcycles – confusing for Law Enforcement as well.
- Mandatory retesting – Endorsement expiration date.
- Remove autocycle from registration as a motorcycle.
- One-day ERC course waiver.
- Specialty motorcycle tags:
  - Need to figure out where money goes – could go to Trauma Fund.
  - Military branch tags.
  - Watch for Motorcycle’s license plate.
- RFID reader – not feasible that this would be accepted by public. MC license plates are difficult for LEOs to read – issue of fleeing.
- Tiered licensing for MC endorsement.
  - Learners’ licenses.
- Increased penalties for MC violations.
- Link definitions of 3.16, 3.20, 3.22.
- Other Changes (Not Legislative):
  - Add behavioral component to Level-2 training, E-Course has monopoly.
    - Look at states who are using E-course.
  - Limiting difference in height of pavement when resurfacing.

### Drug and Alcohol Use in Fatal Motorcycle Crashes – Julissa Marie Sarmiento

Ryder Trauma Center - Miami - Julissa Marie Sarmiento presented Miami-Dade Medical Examiners data: fatalities (2009 – 2014):

Alcohol and cocaine are most common drugs that are tested. Of those with substance detected (n=127) 81% had ethanol or illicit substances. 42.1% had multiple substances detected. Substances were found more frequently in older crash victims. When ethanol was detected, lower percentage of crash victims were wearing helmet. 56% of fatalities tested positive for substances.

View the full presentation: [Drug and Alcohol Use in Fatal Motorcycle Crashes](#)

### Survive the Ride Motorcycle & Scooter Crash Patients - Survey Report 2011-2018 – Avinash Gogineni

Ryder Trauma Center - Miami - Avinash Gogineni presented the Survive the Ride Motorcycle & Scooter Crash Patients - Survey Report 2011-2018 findings:



Goal to reduce recidivism of riders involved in crashes. 81% of scooter riders were not wearing helmets in crash data. 47% of riders involved in crashes were not endorsed. 13% had endorsement but did not receive training.

View the full presentation: [Survive the Ride](#)

### **Roundtable Report Out:**

- Program Management:
- Data and Analysis:
  - Analysis shows longer you go without an accident- less likely you will be in an accident
  - Looked at experienced riders (60+) less likely to be involved in crash due to experience
  - Goals: link hospital injury data with crash data – reach out to ACA and DOH
- Rider Training and Licensing:
  - Modify code to allow licensing course to be 8 hours for returning riders (with screening process) need legislative change - in process
  - Lack of focus on audits – working on redirecting and prioritizing
  - Conduct study to determine number of unendorsed riders – complete
  - Creation of a semester college course – precedents in other states
- Law Enforcement and Emergency Service:
  - Creating FL Sherriff’s association task force – focus on issues in counties with high crash rates
    - FSA has task force – pushed school zones for one week
    - Focus on top week/weeks for crashes and do it for motorcycles. Identify contact and reach out to task force.
  - Supplement to crash report for motorcycles (vulnerable road users) involved in crashes – needs to be spearheaded by DHSMV
  - Possible Advocates:
    - Suncoast Brotherhood
    - Lauren Brooke – senator (LEO supportive)
  - Committee weeks start a couple weeks before session – need to have docs in before
  - Distribute FDOT May press release to LEO contacts across state
  - First responder training program – helmet and airway
- Roadway Engineering:
  - Reach out to improve turnout of district champions – distribute information to districts and central office
  - Symposium June 3-5th will coordinate with CUTR to have booth at event
  - Present information on work zones
- Advocacy and Policy:
- Communications and Outreach:
  - From now on, marketing materials will feature riders in high-visibility gear and larger font
  - Finalized aging rider / scooter brochure – focus on distributing

- Expanding outreach to South Florida Tax Collectors' Offices
- Need to add Summer and Fall to outreach calendar and share
- Identified issue that there are no "products" at the Ride Smart tent to attract visitors at events
- Will work on a Spanish version of the Aging Rider brochure – work with Miami-Dade translator

### **Future Coalition Meeting Dates – Ms. Edie Peters**

- August 28-29, 2019
- November 6-7, 2019

### **Closing Statements**

- Daytona Officer of the Year Event – annual Gold Wings meeting- May 16<sup>th</sup>

View the agenda: [Meeting Agenda](#)